

PORT RICHMOND WATER FRONT THREATENED BY \$30,000 FIRE



Millions of dollars' worth of munitions stored for shipment on piers of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company were menaced by fire that destroyed three buildings at the foot of Somerset street last night.

BRITAIN CURBS SUBMARININGS, OPINION IN U. S.

Believed That Drastic Measures Will Block Ruthless War

FALSE CALM IS FEARED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Back of the mathematical Lloyd's reports on ship destruction in Germany's U-boat campaign probably lies a dramatic story of British counter-measures, inasmuch as the tonnage reported wrecked now seems dwindling.

While the falling off in the last two days may be only temporary, some authorities here see in it the possibility that Germany's use of frightfulness in the barred areas is to be short-lived.

As the story went in British circles today England prepared for Germany's submarine drive some time in advance. She set out new patrols and she took steps to see that her new patrols were armed.

Perhaps, it is suggested, England already has established guarded lanes of gray waters within the barred area, and, moreover, it is believed by naval authorities, Germany already has lost many of her submarines—though on this point the British Admiralty will not talk.

SENATOR DEMANDS DEFINITION OF "OVERT"

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The exact definition of the Administration's view of "an overt act" which would cause war with Germany, was demanded by Senator McCumber on the Senate floor today.

"Since February 1, about seventy-five ships have been sunk by German submarines without warning," he said. "Yet we are told now that we will await an overt act. Certainly if we are to await anything further there never will be any cause for war."

Senator McCumber quoted from newspaper reports of the decision of yesterday's Cabinet meeting to the effect that only the destruction of American ships and American lives would be regarded as cause for "American ships and American lives," he said.

Does this mean that we have further receded from our position? It means that we no longer question Germany's right to sink, without warning, American ships and Americans aboard and that it calls for nothing sterner than a stern note?

MUNITIONS MENACED BY RIVER FRONT FIRE

Fierce Thirty Thousand Dollar Blaze Threatens Section of Port Richmond

Munitions worth millions of dollars were in danger last night when a \$30,000 fire near the Delaware River at the foot of Somerset street destroyed three buildings and threatened a big part of the Port Richmond water front.

The munitions, stored for shipment on the A. B. C. and D. piers of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company, were saved only because the thirty-mile gale carried sparks from the burning building out on the river and away from the explosives.

The wind, however, hindered the firemen in fighting the blaze, while the low temperature forced them to cut through the ice along the shore to get part of their water supply. The fire is believed to have been started by spontaneous combustion.

Ten cars of coal were also damaged, others being removed by locomotives.

SUBMARINES SINK 3 SHIPS; TOTAL 77

Two British and One Norwegian Vessel Sent to Bottom

TWO NORWEGIANS LOST

Ships and Tonnage Sunk by U-Boats Since Feb. 1.

Table with 2 columns: Category, Tonnage. Includes 'Ships reported sunk today', 'Total tonnage reported sunk yesterday', etc.

LOSSES to shipping of the Allies and of neutrals since February 1, when the German unrestricted submarine warfare commenced, have been as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Count. Includes 'Ships reported sunk today', 'Total tonnage reported sunk yesterday', etc.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—An American negro and three Englishmen, members of the crew of the torpedoed steamship Dauntless, have been landed on the Spanish coast, says a Reuter dispatch from Madrid today.

They had been without food for five days and were so weak they had to be taken to a hospital.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—With three more ships sunk today, in Germany's submarine warfare, the toll of U-boat ship victims was increased to seventy-seven.

Two of the crew of the Norwegian merchantman Solbakken perished when that vessel was sunk today.

The British steamships Mantola and Lullington were also reported sunk.

The Solbakken was a steel screw steamship of 2616 tons, registered at Bergen and the property of O. E. Olsen.

The Mantola was an almost new steel vessel, of a net tonnage of 6828, built in 1916, registered at Glasgow and owned by the British India Steam Navigation Company.

GERARD LEAVES GERMANY TODAY

120 Americans to Depart With U. S. Envoy and His Staff

WILL GO TO SWITZERLAND

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Ambassador von Bernstorff, his suite, and the German Consuls from various parts of the country who will return with him, will sail from New York at 2 p. m. next Wednesday.

The Scandinavian-American Line this afternoon announced this sailing date and hour for the liner Frederick VIII, on which the German diplomatic representatives in this country will take passage.

By CARL W. ACKERMAN BERLIN, Feb. 10.

One hundred and twenty Americans will leave Germany with Ambassador Gerard when today he fulfills the last step in President Wilson's orders to break relations with Germany.

The 120 citizens of the United States will leave on the special embassy train which has been provided by the German Government. They will probably go on the second section of the special, the Ambassador and his personal staff occupying accommodations on the first section.

No large congressional appropriation will be needed to relieve stranded Americans in Germany unable to leave at the same time Ambassador Gerard departs.

The reason is that through the generosity of the American Ambassador and his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Mayer, of New York, virtually all Americans without funds who desired to leave with the Ambassador were provided with money and their entire passage loans.

The American consulate here is still caring for some pitiful cases which a congressional fund would assist after the American consular representatives leave.

These include especially a number of Americans ill in hospitals.

The following additional Americans today:

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GARDNER SHAKES FIST AT MOORE

Massachusetts Member of House Angrily Resents Philadelphian's Charge

NOT DEMANDING WAR

By a Staff Correspondent WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Highly enraged because Representative J. Hampton Moore, of Pennsylvania, accused him of wanting to force the United States into war with Germany, Representative Augustus P. Gardner, of Massachusetts, walked down the aisle of the House and shook his fist in the face of the Philadelphian, shouting:

"I absolutely deny that statement. I absolutely deny it."

The gavel was banged on the Speaker's desk in a vain attempt to restore order.

"The gentleman," said Representative Moore, "has made some of the most famous speeches on the floor of this House in favor of aiding with England. He has gone out of his way to criticize Germany."

FIRE TRAPS FOUR IN BOARDING HOUSE

Other Bodies May Be Among Ruins in South Bethlehem

STEEL MEN AID FIREMEN

Toll of Life and Property Taken by Fires of One Day

BOSTON.—Lenox Hotel; loss, \$100,000. Pottsville—Boarding house; four known dead; loss, \$4000.

New Castle, Del.—Six houses; loss, \$10,000. Burlington, N. J.—Pier and warehouse; loss, \$4000.

Parker's Landing—Houses and stores; one dead; loss, \$100,000.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM, Pa., Feb. 10.—Four Greeks, as yet unidentified, were burned to death in a fire which early today destroyed a boarding house on Huttenwood street. Six other boarders, all men, are unaccounted for.

The blaze is supposed to have started from an overheated stove. The loss to the building will be about \$5000. The belief is that the dead were first overcome by smoke and rendered unable to escape.

When the firemen arrived the flames had gained great headway. Chief George H. Moritz called on the Bethlehem Steel Company department for assistance. Shortly before 6 o'clock the flames were under control. It was then that the firemen discovered that several persons were victims of the flames.

With hatches and axes the work of rescuing the bodies was begun. All recovered were burned beyond recognition.

The prospect of the stores is among the missing. It has not been possible to learn just how many were in the building at the time of the fire and the authorities are

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BOARD MAY DENY TRANSIT PERMIT

Fear of Penrose Causes Members to Hesitate Over Certificate

WOULD WAIT FOR LEASE

HARRISBURG, Feb. 10.—The entire Public Service Commission will sit at the hearing of the application filed by the City of Philadelphia for certificates of public transit convenience, which will be held in City Hall, Philadelphia, next Wednesday.

An invitation has been sent to all the business men's associations in Philadelphia, and to all the individuals who have publicly attacked the proposed transit lease to be present.

The commission also has given notice that it will hear any taxpayer who wishes to appear.

The proposed lease, it is expected, will have a large part to do with the granting of the requested certificates. It is even being said on Capitol Hill today that the proposed lease is one of the reasons why all seven members of the commission will go to Philadelphia for the hearing.

The Public Service Commission is under fire from the heaviest of the Penrose guns during the present factional fight within the Republican Organization, and the commission does not want to leave themselves open to any possible criticism from the Penrose legislative leaders who are desirous of probing the utilities body.

QUICK NEWS

PLOT REVEALED TO OVERTHROW CUBAN GOVERNMENT

HAVANA, Feb. 10.—A plot to overthrow the Cuban Government has been unearthed, according to a statement made by Aurelio Hevia, Secretary of the Interior. It is said that some arrests have been made. Among those arrested, it was said, was at least one army officer, perhaps more.

HOUSE VOTES ON GREAT NAVAL BILL TUESDAY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The House today agreed to vote on the \$350,000,000 navy bill at the opening of Tuesday's session. The bill probably will be completed late today. Monday will be Lincoln's birthday. Many members will be absent, so the vote was deferred.

ALLIED AIRMEN SHELL ZEEBRUGGE NAVAL BASE

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 10.—The German naval base at Zeebrugge has been bombed by a squadron of Allied aeroplanes, says a dispatch to the Telegraph.

FRENCH SHELL KARLSRUHE; TEUTONS RETALIATE

PARIS, Feb. 10.—The German city of Karlsruhe, fifty miles inside the Franco-German frontier, has been bombed by a French aviator, the War Office announced today. The Germans have again shelled Dunkirk from the air, as well as Amiens, Nancy and the region of Pont St. Vincent. A woman was killed at Amiens. Near Pont St. Vincent a civilian was killed and four wounded. A German aeroplane was shot down near Pagnyville-en-Haye.

INFANTRY UNIT AUTHORIZED AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—President Wilson today ordered the establishment of an infantry unit at Cornell University and also a senior division of the reserve officers' training corps.

3100 CRAFT CARRY TEUTON BOOTY UP DANUBE

BERLIN, Feb. 10.—More than 400 steamboats and 2700 tugboats are engaged in transporting the enormous booty captured by the Germans in Rumania up the River Danube to Austria-Hungary and Germany, the Press Bureau said today.

POPE MAY INTERVENE TO PREVENT U. S.-GERMAN WAR

PARIS, Feb. 10.—It is reported on good authority that Pope Benedict is considering the suggestion that he intervene in the German-American situation in order to prevent the breach between those two countries from growing any wider. A dispatch from Rome stated it was believed in some circles that Spain probably would back up any action that the Vatican might take in that direction.

EVERYBODY IN U. S. SHOULD HAVE \$43.50 TODAY

The amount of money in circulation in the United States on February 1 was \$4,498,969,871, according to the report of the Treasury Department. According to these figures, each man, woman and child in the country should have \$43.50 in pocket, if the total amount were evenly distributed. The population of the United States is estimated at 103,403,000 in the same report.

DECEMBER RAILROAD EARNINGS OFF \$2,000,000

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Railroad earnings fell off more than \$2,000,000 in December, according to a summary in part of the 144 largest railroads issued today by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

PLANES SHELL DUNKIRK; FOUR KILLED

PARIS, Feb. 10.—An official statement says that aeroplanes have again dropped bombs in the region of Dunkirk, killing four civilians. Projectiles were dropped in the Frouard district also, four persons being wounded.

WARSHIPS AND RAIDER REPORTED IN BATTLE

BIENOS AIRES, Feb. 10.—Special dispatches received from Pernambuco declare that a battle occurred Thursday off Fernando de Noronha between a British cruiser squadron and the German raider. The fight lasted four hours, it was said, but the outcome was unknown. The island of Fernando de Noronha is situated about 125 miles off the eastern extremity of Brazil.

250,000 CATS, 100,000 DOGS IN PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia has 250,000 cats and 100,000 dogs, according to statistics gathered by the Morris Refuge, 1242 Lombard street. In 1915 the Morris Refuge handled 54,712 cats and kittens and 11,543 dogs. Port Richmond comes near being the cat center of the city. More than 2500 cats were disposed by the Richmond branch of the organization last year.

682 VESSELS UNDER WAY IN AMERICAN SHIPYARDS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—In response to a general inquiry, which included every shipbuilding yard in the United States, the Bureau of Navigation of the Department of Commerce has received returns showing that there are now under construction in this country 682 vessels, designed for freight and passenger traffic, with a total tonnage of 2,998,761.

STEEL COMPANY CUTS \$8,000,000 FROM CAPITAL

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 10.—An amended certificate was filed with the Secretary of State by the Wharton Steel Company, which has a plant at Wharton, N. J., decreasing its authorized capital stock from \$10,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

GOING UP! SUGAR PRICES SOARING

Several Big Candy Plants Forced to Close Because of Shortage

SUPPLY FAST EATEN UP Unless Relief Comes City Will Be Sugarless Within Forty-eight Hours

Candy Manufacturers Abandon Some Brands

MANUFACTURING confectioners obliged to abandon manufacture of certain brands of candy because of famine in refined sugar. Several may be forced to shut down.

Chain stores boost the retail price one cent, and wholesalers raise the price from \$6.75 to \$8 per 100 pounds.

Experts say there are not 12,000 barrels of sugar in the city; the normal supply is about 75,000 barrels.

Today raw sugar advanced to 5.02c; this is a rise of thirteen points over yesterday.

Strikers at Philadelphia refineries hold firm in their demands.

The famine in refined sugar became serious from an industrial standpoint today, when several of the largest manufacturing confectioners were obliged to abandon the making of certain grades of candy because they were unable to obtain sugar supplies.

Housewives in the city received a severe jolt when the chain stores advanced the price of refined one cent the pound. Prior to today they sold refined for seven and one-half cents, but today the price is eight and one-half.

Many chain stores have no sugar on hand, with little prospects of getting any for several days. Other stores with a limited stock will sell only four pounds to a customer. Scores of retail grocers outside the chain list are charging from ten to twelve cents a pound.

The strike of 2000 sugar workers at the three big refineries in the city has stopped absolutely the output of refined sugar in Philadelphia. The combined output of the refinery of more than 1000 stevedores and longshoremen has blocked the importation of raw sugar in Philadelphia.

The sympathetic strike of the stevedores has caused Philadelphia to lose two large cargoes of raw sugar. One of 15,094 bags was brought here on the Cuban steamship Yumuri last Sunday from Sagua and Cardenas. The vessel tied up at Pier 60, South, foot of Reed street. The ship will sail today for New York, the captain having obtained clearance papers yesterday.

The Norwegian steamship Fagerand, which intended coming to this port from Cienfuegos with a cargo of sugar, reached the Delaware Breakwater and received orders to proceed to New York.

Discharging of the American steamship Cante, which arrived Monday from Cienfuegos with 31,000 bags of raw sugar, has stopped. The vessel is lying at Pier 61, South, near Reed street. Strike leaders said today that stevedores working for New York refineries would go out next week.

UNPRECEDENTED SHORTAGE

It was estimated by leading sugar brokers and wholesale grocers that there were not in the aggregate 1200 barrels of refined sugar in the entire city. This includes the fast-diminishing supply in warehouses and on the shelves of retail grocers. Several wholesale grocers took advantage of the scarcity and boosted the price from \$6.75 the hundred pounds to \$8. This explains the boosting in price of the retailers.

Never since sugar exports can remember has the supply in Philadelphia been so low. Under normal conditions the experts say that there should be at least 75,000 barrels of sugar stored in the refineries and the wholesale houses of the city. Under normal conditions the wholesalers move 4500 barrels a day, and in view of these figures it is seen that the present meager supply of 1200 barrels will not last long. In fact, it is stated that if relief does not come at once Philadelphia will be virtually sugarless within forty-eight hours.

CANDY MEN UNPREPARED

It was explained by confectionery manufacturers that the closing of the refineries because of the strike caught them unawares. Most of them were looking for a decided drop in the price of sugar at this time so they had deferred laying in large stores until the expected reduction. As a result they were virtually without stores. On Tuesday the output stopped entirely, and twelve hours later the supplies in the candy factories were exhausted.

The candy factory proprietors made frantic appeals to refineries in New York and Boston. A few carloads of sugar were rushed through to them, but the present railroad embargo prevented shipment of sufficient sugar to meet the demands here. The fact that the big Brooklyn refinery of the American Company, too is crippled by

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THE WEATHER FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Fair tonight and Sunday; coldest tonight about eighteen degrees; somewhat warmer Sunday; moderate westerly winds.

Table with 2 columns: Day, Temperature. Includes 'LENGTH OF DAY', 'DELaware RIVER TIDE CHANGE', 'TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR'.